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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MBABAN 00773 182119 Z

72
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /124 W
---------- 105423
R 181435 Z APR 73
FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4817
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MBABANE 0773

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, WZ
SUBJECT: ABSENCE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER FROM
MEETING FOR EXPLANATION ABOLITION
CONSTITUTIONAL RULE

REF: MBABANE 0772

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER (BHC), WHO DID NOT RPT
NOT ATTEND MEETING CITED REFTEL, WAS CALLED TO SEPARATE
LATER MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER ALONE. SUBSTANCE
PRIME MINISTER' S REMARKS APPARENTLY SIMILAR TO THOSE
OF EARLIER MEETING. BHC HYPOTHESIZED SWAZIS DID NOT
WISH RISK POSSIBLE CONFRONTATION ABOUT ALLEGATIONS OF
" IMPOSED CONSTITUTION" IN PRESENCE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.
2. BHC MADE SPECIAL EFFORT PRESENT CHARGE WITH THE
REPORT OF SWAZILAND INDEPENDENCE CONFERENCE OF 1968.
BHC STATED SOME SECTIONS CONSTITUTION WHICH NOW UNAC-
CEPTABLE TO SWAZIS HAD BEEN INSERTED AT REQUEST
SWAZILAND. HE HAS CONCLUDED, HE SAID, THAT THERE IS
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SIMPLY NO WAY FOR SWAZIS TO UNDERSTAND WHY ANY MATTER SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PEOPLE FOR APPROVAL (AS IN CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT REFERENDUM) ONCE COUNCIL (PARLIAMENT) AND KING HAVE MADE DECISION ON SUBJECT. HE SAID THAT BRITISH HAD " SOUGHT TO IMPLANT" THIS CONCEPT AT INDEPENDENCE AND THAT, FRANKLY AND UNFORTUNATELY, THE PEOPLE IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE AT THAT TIME " HADN' T A CLUE" ABOUT THE AFRICAN MENTALITY.
SPICER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MBABAN00773
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MBABANE 0772
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Review Authority: elyme
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980203
Subject: ABSENCE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER FROM MEETING FOR EXPLANATION ABOLITION CONSTITUTIONAL RULE
TAGS: PGOV, WZ
To: AF
CAPE TOWN
GABORONE
JOHANNESBURG
LONDON
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MASERU

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PRETORIA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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